

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00  
ERDA-05 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-13  
L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07  
SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 /103 W  
-----046373 251133Z /10

R 250552Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 474

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DEPT PASS TO DOT, EPA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, JA

SUBJECT: GOJ ENVIRONMENT AGENCY INTEREST IN PREVENTING OIL SPILLS  
FROM TANKERS

REF: TOKYO 8550

1. SHINTARO ISHIHARA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ENVIRONMENT AGENCY  
AND MINISTER OF STATE, CALLED IN DCM AND SCICOUNS TO DISCUSS  
HIS INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING COOPERATION WITH USG TO SET  
INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR PREVENTION OF OIL SPILLS FROM  
TANKERS. ISHIHARA NOTED THAT HE HAD HELD INTERESTING  
DISCUSSION ON POLLUTION FROM OIL TANKERS WITH UAE AMBASSADOR  
TO JAPAN. LATTER HAD STATED THAT UAE HAS BILATERAL AGREEMENTS  
ON POLLUTION PREVENTION IN PERSIAN GULF WITH IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA,  
AND OTHER MIDDLE EAST STATES. ISHIHARA EXPRESSED VIEW THAT OPEC  
COUNTRIES IN GENERAL WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED IN HAVING BETTER  
INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS SET UP FOR TANKER SAFETY AND THAT THE  
U.S. AND JAPAN WERE THE LOGICAL COUNTRIES TO JOINTLY WORK  
TOWARD THIS GOAL. HE MENTIONED PRESIDENT CARTER'S  
SPEECH ON OIL POLLUTION AND APPEARED TO BE FAMILIAR

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WITH LEGISLATION ON THIS SUBJECT NOW IN U.S. CONGRESS,  
BUT APPARENTLY HAD NOT BEEN BRIEFED ON DISCUSSIONS  
HELD JUNE 6 BY ADMIRAL WALLACE, DIAMANTI, AND LAKEY WITH  
NIHEI OF ENVIRONMENT AGENCY ON PROPOSED COAST GUARD  
REGULATIONS (REFTEL).

2. ISHIHARA STATED THAT HE IS PLANNING TO VISIT WASHINGTON

MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH OFFICIALS IN DOT AND EPA AND REQUESTED THAT DCM NOTIFY THESE AGENCIES OF HIS PLANS. HE ALSO ASKED TO BE SUPPLIED WITH WHATEVER RECENT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM USG ON VIEWS OF OTHER COUNTRIES TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION OF 1973 CONVENTION, PROPOSED COAST GUARD RULES, PENDING US LEGISLATION, ETC., SO THAT HE CAN BE AS WELL INFORMED AS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.

3. COMMENT: MINISTER ISHIHARA IS A NEWCOMER TO JAPANESE POLITICAL SCENE. HE IS TABBED AS BEING POTENTIAL LEADER AMONG GOJ OFFICIALS, ALTHOUGH HIS YOUTH AND INEXPERIENCE ARE AGAINST HIM FOR THE NEAR FUTURE. HE MAY BE CHALLENGING GOJ BUREAUCRACY, IN FACT, BY TAKING INITIATIVE ON OIL TANKER SAFETY, CONSIDERING THAT THIS HAS BEEN HISTORICAL PROVINCE OF MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT. HOWEVER, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT ISHIHARA BE GIVEN FULL HEARING BY USG AGENCIES, IN PROSPECT THAT HE COULD BE DRIVING FORCE WITHIN GOJ TO GET JAPANESE BACKING FOR US POSITION IN IMCO AND POSSIBLY OTHER FORA. IF DOT OR COAST GUARD CAN FURNISH INFO REQUESTED BY ISHIHARA, PLEASE DISPATCH ASAP.  
MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLLUTION, OIL SPILLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TOKYO12969  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770307-0290  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TOKYO 8550  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOJ ENVIRONMENT AGENCY INTEREST IN PREVENTING OIL SPILLS FROM TANKERS  
**TAGS:** SENV, JA, XX  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/9187e852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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